# CHAPTER VI—OFFICE OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Part	
600	Institutional eligibility under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended
601	[Reserved]
602	The Secretary's recognition of accrediting agencies
603	Secretary's recognition procedures for State agencies
604	Federal-State relationship agreements
606	Developing Hispanic-serving institutions program
607	Strengthening institutions program
608	Strengthening historically Black colleges and universities program
609	Strengthening historically Black graduate institutions program
611	Teacher quality enhancement grants program
614	Preparing tomorrow's teachers to use technology
628	Endowment challenge grant program
636	Urban community service program
637	Minority science and engineering improvement program
642	Training program for Federal TRIO programs
643	Talent search
644	Educational opportunity centers
645	Upward bound program
646	Student support services program
647	Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program
648	Graduate assistance in areas of national need
649	[Reserved]
650	Jacob K. Javits fellowship program
654	Robert C. Byrd honors scholarship program
655	International education programs—general provi-
	sions

### 34 CFR Ch. VI (7-1-05 Edition)

Part		Page
656	National resource centers program for foreign lan- guage and area studies or foreign language and	354
657	international studiesForeign language and area studies fellowships pro-	334
037	gram	361
658	Undergraduate international studies and foreign language program	366
660	The international research and studies program	370
661	Business and international education program	374
662	Fulbright-Hays doctoral dissertation research abroad fellowship program	377
663	Fulbright-Hays faculty research abroad fellowship program	381
664	Fulbright-Hays group projects abroad program	385
668	Student assistance general provisions	390
669	Language resource centers program	552
673	General provisions for the Federal Perkins loan program, Federal work-study program, and Federal supplemental educational opportunity grant program	554
674	Federal Perkins loan program	560
675	Federal work-study programs	609
676	Federal supplemental educational opportunity	000
070	grant program	622
682	Federal family education loan (FFEL) program	626
685	William D. Ford Federal direct loan program	813
690	Federal Pell grant program	863
692	Leveraging educational assistance partnership pro-	000
002	gram	878
693	[Reserved]	
694	Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)	884

## PART 600—INSTITUTIONAL ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965, AS AMENDED

#### Subpart A—General

Sec.

600.1 Scope.

600.2 Definitions.

600.3 [Reserved]

600.4 Institution of higher education.

600.5 Proprietary institution of higher education.

600.6 Postsecondary vocational institution.

600.7 Conditions of institutional ineligibility.

600.8 Treatment of a branch campus.

600.9 [Reserved]

600.10 Date, extent, duration, and consequence of eligibility.

600.11 Special rules regarding institutional accreditation or preaccreditation.

#### Subpart B—Procedures for Establishing Eligibility

600.20 Application procedures for establishing, reestablishing, maintaining, or expanding institutional eligibility and certification.

600.21 Updating application information.

#### Subpart C—Maintaining Eligibility

600.30 [Reserved]

600.31 Change in ownership resulting in a change in control for private nonprofit, private for-profit and public institutions. 600.32 Eligibility of additional locations.

#### Subpart D—Loss of Eligibility

600.40 Loss of eligibility.

600.41 Termination and emergency action proceedings.

#### Subpart E—Eligibility of Foreign Institutions To Apply To Participate in the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Programs

600.51 Purpose and scope.

600.52 Definitions.

600.53 Requesting an eligibility determination.

600.54 Criteria for determining whether a foreign institution is eligible to apply to participate in the FFEL programs.

600.55 Additional criteria for determining whether a foreign graduate medical school is eligible to apply to participate in the FFEL programs.

600.56 Additional criteria for determining whether a foreign veterinary school is eligible to apply to participate in the FFEL programs.

600.57 Duration of eligibility determination.

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#### Subpart A—General

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#### §600.1 Scope.

This part establishes the rules and procedures that the Secretary uses to determine whether an educational institution qualifies in whole or in part as an eligible institution of higher education under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA). An eligible institution of higher education may apply to participate in programs authorized by the HEA (HEA programs).

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1088, 1094, 1099b, 1099c, and 1141)

#### § 600.2 Definitions.

The following definitions apply to terms used in this part:

Accredited: The status of public recognition that a nationally recognized accrediting agency grants to an institution or educational program that meets the agency's established requirements.

Award year: The period of time from July 1 of one year through June 30 of the following year.

Branch Campus: A location of an institution that is geographically apart and independent of the main campus of the institution. The Secretary considers a location of an institution to be independent of the main campus if the location—

(1) Is permanent in nature;

(2) Offers courses in educational programs leading to a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential;

(3) Has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory organization; and

(4) Has its own budgetary and hiring authority.

Clock hour: A period of time consisting of—